

CLASSIFICATIONS ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in the Templin-Vogelsang-Bernau-Krampnitz- south ofBerlin AreaEVALUATION 50X1-HUM PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 20 January 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 29 December 1954, Camp Vogelsang (4823) in Templin was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and motor transport insignia. The unit was allegedly a tank unit. It was learned that the camp was to serve as quarters for armored units exclusively in the future.
2. Beginning on 22 December, unusually large groups of 2, 3, or 4 new M-3 armored personnel carriers and numerous factory-new trucks were seen in Vogelsang. 50X1-HUM
3. On 24 December, a new type of sedan with four seats, similar to the former German Army Volkswagen, was seen for the first time in Vogelsang. The sedans were factory-new. They were definitely not jeeps. 50X1-HUM
4. Between 24 and 31 December, barracks sections which had been dismantled in Camp Vogelsang were shipped toward Prenzlau.
5. In the afternoon on 23 December, artillery firing practice was held in the Templin training area. The artillery pieces fired individually and at battery and battalion level. 50X1-HUM
6. At about 0945 on 5 January, a column of approximately 12 trucks, which came from the direction of Hirschfelde, proceeded toward Werneuchen southeast of Bernau. The trucks towed 6 x 85-mm AT guns and were occupied by approximately 160 soldiers. The guns were being emplaced at the western exit of Werneuchen, while the soldiers from the trucks deployed in the terrain. Jeep which a parently represented the enemy, was fired at with real cartridges and blank cartridges. 50X1-HUM
7. Prior to 3 January, the Kavallerie Schule (2161) in Krampnitz was still occupied by approximately 12,000 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. Training concentrated on drill, record firing with carbines and submachine guns and field training in groups up to platoon and company level. 50X1-HUM
8. In the morning of 24 December and 2 January, 4 two-axle armored personnel carriers practiced driving in the terrain.

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9. In the morning of 27 December, 5 tanks including T-34/85 tanks [redacted] and 1 tank of the new type [redacted] left the installation for driving practice in the terrain. Tank [redacted] resembled a T-34 tank; The turret of this tank was lower and the gun barrel was about 1 meter longer than those of the other tanks. It had an estimated caliber of 100 mm. 50X1-HUM
10. On 2 January, firing practice was held at the firing range throughout the day. In the morning on 3 January, a column of 20 three-axle armored personnel carriers [redacted] left the installation. The vehicles were occupied by only one driver. Until about 1600, they practiced deployment and assembling under the supervision of an officer and 2 NCOs. 50X1-HUM
11. At about 1500 on 30 December, an armored vehicle of an undetermined type was seen at the Rangsdorf railroad station. [redacted] Armor plates almost covered the four wheels which had pneumatic tires. The armor plate over the engine in the front slanted. The vehicle had an estimated capacity of 10 soldiers. 50X1-HUM
12. Between 2000 and midnight on 30 December, 500 to 700 soldiers participated in a night exercise in the Kammersdorf restricted area. The exercise included an assault against field fortifications. 50X1-HUM
1. [redacted] Comment. According to available information, the 111th Tank Regt of the 25th Tank Div is believed to be permanently stationed in Camp Vogelsang in Templin. It is possible that the 162d Tank Regt of the 25th Tank Div also transferred there after the completion of the fall maneuvers since, after that date, it has not been observed in its previous quarters in Oranienburg; there are no indications that the regiment is stationed in Prenzlau.
2. [redacted] Comment. The observation indicates that the exchange of motor vehicles of units of the 25th Tank Div stationed in Vogelsang made good progress.
3. [redacted] Comment. These new sedans with four seats were also observed with the 9th Tank Div in Zeithain during the second half of December. It cannot be determined whether the observation of these vehicles is an indication of a general reequipping or not.
4. [redacted] Comment. After the construction of permanent barracks buildings in Vogelsang these temporary buildings were probably no longer needed. No information has been received on their future use.
5. [redacted] Comment. It is believed that elements of the U/i Arty Regt of the 25th Tank Div stationed in Prenzlau conducted firing practices.
6. [redacted] Comment. The AT guns and the trucks presumably belonged to the 71st Light Arty Brig from Bernau. Exercises of this unit were observed in this area also in 1954.
7. [redacted] Comment. Training observed in Kranpnitz is normal. The description of the new tank fails to furnish new indications but confirms available information.
8. [redacted] Comment. The new vehicle appears to be a road-bound armored vehicle of a new type which may be used by military police. [redacted]

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